8011-01p SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-69059; File No. SR-NYSEArca-2013-23)

March 7, 2013

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Arca, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Amending the NYSE Arca Inc. Fee Schedule to Increase the Gross FOCUS Fee

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")² and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,³ notice is hereby given that, on February 26, 2013, NYSE Arca, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "NYSE Arca") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of the Substance of the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend the Exchange's Fee Schedule to increase the gross FOCUS fee ("Gross FOCUS Fee"). The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at www.nyse.com, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

In its filing with the Commission, the self-regulatory organization included statements concerning the purpose of, and basis for, the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it

¹ 15 U.S.C.78s(b)(1).

² 15 U.S.C. 78a.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

received on the proposed rule change. The text of those statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant parts of such statements.

A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend its Fee Schedule to increase the Gross FOCUS Fee. The Exchange proposes to immediately reflect the proposed change in its Fee Schedule, but not to implement the proposed rate change until April 1, 2013.⁴

The Exchange currently charges each ETP Holder a monthly Gross FOCUS Fee of \$0.07 per \$1,000 of gross revenue reported on its FOCUS Report.⁵ The Exchange proposes to increase the rate of the Gross FOCUS Fee from \$0.07 per \$1,000 of gross revenue to \$0.075 per \$1,000 of gross revenue.⁶ The Exchange is proposing this increase in order to offset increased regulatory expenses. In this regard, the Exchange notes that it has not increased the Gross FOCUS Fee since June 2011.⁷

The Exchange allocates the funds collected pursuant to the Gross FOCUS Fee to fund the performance of its regulatory activities with respect to ETP Holders, including expenses associated

The Exchange has proposed changes to the Fee Schedule, as reflected in the Exhibit 5 attached hereto, in a manner that would permit readers of the Fee Schedule to identify the proposed increase to the Gross FOCUS Fee that would be implemented on April 1, 2013.

FOCUS is an acronym for Financial and Operational Combined Uniform Single Report. FOCUS Reports are filed periodically with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission" or "SEC") as SEC Form X-17A-5 pursuant to Rule 17a-5 under the Act.

The Exchange is also proposing to specify, as is the case today, that the Gross FOCUS Fee is charged monthly.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 64595 (June 3, 2011), 76 FR 33795 (June 9, 2011) (SR-NYSEArca-2011-32).

with the regulatory functions performed both by NYSE Regulation, Inc. ("NYSE Regulation") and by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") pursuant to a regulatory services agreement, for which FINRA is paid by NYSE Regulation.

The Exchange will monitor the amount of revenue collected from the Gross FOCUS Fee to ensure that it, in combination with its other regulatory fees and fines, does not exceed regulatory costs. The Exchange expects to monitor regulatory costs and revenues on an annual basis, at a minimum. If the Exchange determines that regulatory revenues exceed regulatory costs, the Exchange would adjust the Gross FOCUS Fee downward by submitting a fee change filing to the Commission.

The Exchange notes that the proposed change is not otherwise intended to address any other issues, and the Exchange is not aware of any problems that ETP Holders would have in complying with the proposed change.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, 8 in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act, 9 in particular, because it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its members, issuers and other persons using its facilities and does not unfairly discriminate between customers, issuers, brokers or dealers.

The Exchange believes that the proposed change is reasonable because the increase in the Gross FOCUS Fee would permit the Exchange to offset increased regulatory expenses related to

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⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

^{9 15} U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

ETP Holders. In this regard, the Exchange notes that it has not increased the Gross FOCUS Fee since June 2011.¹⁰

The Exchange further believes that the level of the Gross FOCUS Fee is reasonable because it is expected to generate revenues that, when combined with the Exchange's other regulatory fees with respect to ETP Holders, will be less than or equal to the Exchange's regulatory costs. The Exchange believes that this is consistent with the Commission's previously stated view that regulatory fees be used for regulatory purposes and not to support the Exchange's business side.

The Exchange further believes that the proposed change is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the Gross FOCUS Fee is assessed in an objective manner to all ETP Holders based on gross revenue reported on their FOCUS Reports.

B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed change is not designed to address any competitive issues. Rather, the proposed change is designed to permit the Exchange to adequately fund its regulatory activities in light of increased regulatory expenses related to ETP Holders.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

The foregoing rule change is effective upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)¹¹ of

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See supra note 7.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

the Act and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4¹² thereunder, because it establishes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by NYSE Arca.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of such proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings under Section 19(b)(2)(B)¹³ of the Act to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-NYSEArca-2013-23 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSEArca-2013-23. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet website (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should

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submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSEArca-2013-23, and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁴

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

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